SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Towards A Sustainable Development Strategy For Manitobans

DEVELOPMENT IN HARMONY WITH OUR ENVIRONMENT

Manitoba Round Table
on Environment & Economy

91-01119/

TO ALL MANITOBANS

The pressing environmental and economic opportunities and challenges facing us today and our children in the future are of interest and concern to us all.

We believe that sustainable development is the means by which our environment can be protected, our economy can grow and our society can be enhanced.

In a spirit of cooperation and partnership, the Manitoba Round Table on Environment and Economy and the Manitoba Government have initiated a dialogue on the environment and economy.

Sustainable Development is a grass-roots concept. It depends on the active involvement and participation of all citizens to find solutions to problems, identify opportunities and mould the type of society that meets our needs and those of future generations.

Our thoughts as expressed in this document are being brought forward for your consideration. We wish to open the dialogue by giving you an opportunity to discuss problems of environment and economy and to assist in developing appropriate strategies for their resolution. We hope you find this approach an effective means of ensuring your participation and voicing your interests.

Members of the Manitoba Round Table
on Environment and Economy

Manitoba Government

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SEPTEMBER 1990

ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY

> *"We have the power to reconcile human affairs with natural laws and to thrive in the process."*
>
> Our Common Future P.1

Daily news events remind us that our relationship with the earth and its natural systems is constantly changing. Potential hazards of climate change, depletion of the ozone shield, and destruction of valuable agricultural lands are alarming consequences of the interlocking nature of environment and economy. Clearly, humanity has reached a cross-roads.

Despite these threats to human survival, and the necessity of making changes, there is reason for optimism.

In the 1980s, there emerged a global recognition that the goals of environmental protection and economic development need not be conflicting. In fact they can be mutually reinforcing. There can be no sustained development or meaningful growth without a clear commitment to preservation of the environment and promotion of wise and efficient use of resources. In the absence of appropriate growth and development we cannot continue to protect the environment.

The idea of sustainable development is not new. Its origins lie in the Paris "Biosphere Conference" and the Washington, D.C. Conference on "Ecological Aspects of International Development" held in 1968. These conferences concluded that few if any countries take adequate account of environmental considerations when making policy decisions with respect to economic development.

The importance of sustainable development was reinforced by the World Conservation Strategy in 1980 which stressed maintenance of essential processes and life support systems, preservation of genetic diversity, and sustainable utilization of species and ecosystems. Its aim was to achieve sustainable development through the conservation of living resources.

However it was the World Commission on Environment and Development who brought global awareness of and support for sustainable development. The Commission characterized sustainable development as paths of social, economic, and political progress that meet **the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.**

Canada's initial response was the establishment of the National Task Force on Environment and Economy. Task Force members were drawn from the private sector, business, government, academic and leading environmental organizations. They were given the mandate of fostering and promoting environmentally sound economic development.

While no globally accepted definition of sustainable development exists, most definitions incorporate the following beliefs:

- *That we cannot continue to develop economically unless we protect the environment.*
- *That continued economic development will be needed to pay for important environmental initiatives.*
- *That the needs of the present must be met without sacrificing the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.*
- *That attention must be paid to long-term effects of both environmental and economic decisions.*

ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY

The Provincial Government and the Manitoba Round Table on Environment and Economy have embraced these beliefs and are committed to **environmentally sound and sustainable economic development**

This core document will provide the framework for a sustainable development strategy for Manitobans. The overall strategy will be a dynamic one, subject to change and modification as our experience and wisdom increase over the years to come. Unquestionably, sustainable development will take years to achieve.

WHY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

A healthy environment is essential for long-term economic development and job creation. One in ten jobs in Manitoba depends on forestry and a sustainable yield of timber. Additionally, one in seven jobs depends on agricultural production from our soil and water resources. Manitoba's sustainable economic growth and competitiveness is tied directly to the growth and prosperity of agriculture. Our multi-million dollar tourism and recreation industries rely upon the preservation of Manitoba's parks, wilderness and wildlife areas. The maintenance of commercial and sport fishing industries require sustained fishery resources and habitats. The competitiveness of the Manitoba economy is dependent upon increasing efficiency and productivity of industrial and manufacturing processes.

Environmentally sound and sustainable economic development emphasizes promotion of diverse economic opportunities while protecting productivity and diversity of natural ecosystems.

Clearly, our natural resources are extremely important. Indeed, the economic future of Manitoba requires the maintenance of our soils, forests, fisheries, wildlife species, water, land, air and minerals.

Exploitation of any one natural resource has direct consequences for others. This requires difficult trade-offs and choices. Government and business are often caught in the middle and forced to make unpopular choices.

Sustainable development requires integrated management and decision making to optimize opportunities and benefits to resource users. Equally important, sustainable development requires that relevant stakeholders, affected by management and development decisions be involved and help make the difficult choices and trade-offs.

Sustainable development is a catalyst for development of new industries such as recycling. The benefits are many and include environmental enhancement, job creation, industrial development, improved waste management and increased cooperation between and amongst Manitobans.

Many rural communities have experienced stressful changes in the past few years. These include the difficulty of relying solely on agriculture for a livelihood, and maintaining an adequate rural population.

ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY

Sustainable development encourages diversification and development of the economy in a manner that provides stability and prosperity for our rural communities.

Quality of life has become an important factor taken into account by business in choosing new locations. Environmentally sound and sustainable economic development based on maintaining a healthy environment together with related opportunity for economic and social development, will ensure that our province continues to be a desirable place to live, invest, work and visit.

> "Humanity has the ability to make development sustainable - to ensure that it meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."
>
> Our Common Future P.8

THE PROCESS

The process is fundamentally important to sustainable development. The Core Document, which serves as a framework for a Sustainable Development Strategy for Manitobans, has been prepared with the advice and guidance of the Manitoba Round Table on Environment and Economy. The Round Table is comprised of key decision-makers from government, labour, industry, and non-government organizations.

The vital ingredient in the process is you. The process promotes the participation of all citizens; government, non-government agencies, business and labour working together to chart a course for sustainable development in Manitoba.

The draft Core Document is presented to you for your input and views. You will shape the future of Manitoba.

A VISION FOR MANITOBA

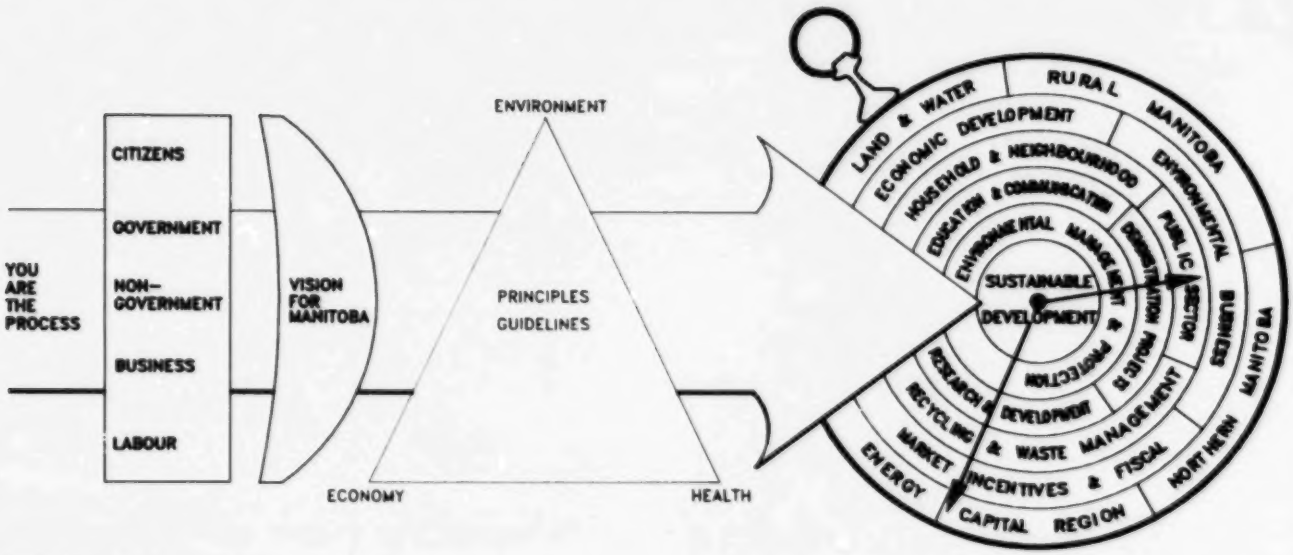
> *"... the environment is where we all live; and development is what we all do in attempting to improve our lot ... The two are inseparable."*
>
> Our Common Future P.xi

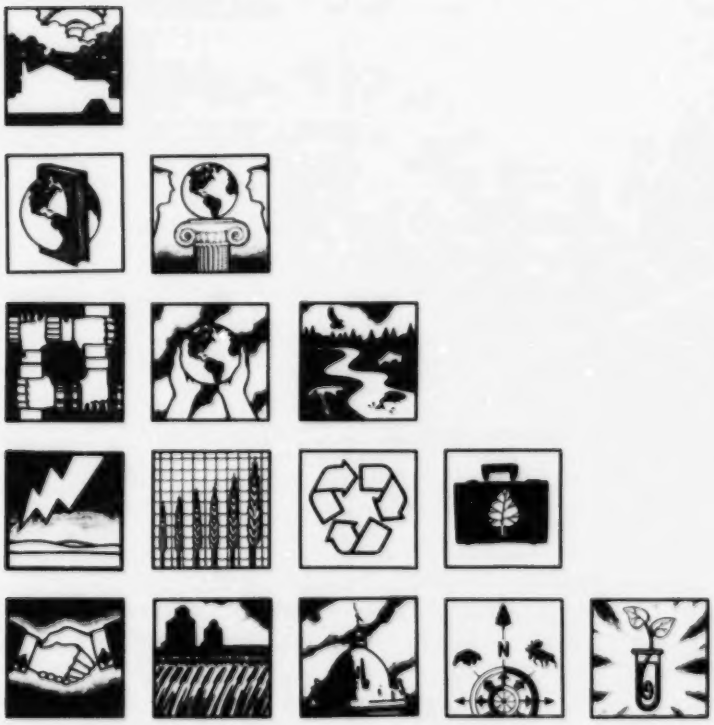
OUR VISION FOR MANITOBA IS A SOUND ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH.

A sound environment means clean, safe and healthy air, land and water in which to live, work and play.

Sustainable economic growth means quality growth which creates ongoing wealth that provides goods and services for both present and future generations of Manitobans in an environmentally sound manner.

FROM VISION TO ACTION





PRINCIPLES OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Our vision of environmentally sound and sustainable economic growth for Manitoba will be governed by the following principles:

1. INTEGRATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC DECISIONS

This principle requires that we ensure economic decisions adequately reflect environmental impacts including human health. Environmental initiatives shall adequately take into account economic consequences.

2. STEWARDSHIP

This principle requires that we manage the environment and economy for the benefit of present and future generations.

Stewardship requires the recognition that we are caretakers of the environment and economy for the benefit of present and future generations of Manitobans. A balance must be struck between today's decisions and tomorrow's impacts.

3. SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

This principle requires that all Manitobans acknowledge responsibility for sustaining the environment and economy, with each being accountable for decisions and actions, in a spirit of partnership and open cooperation.

4. PREVENTION

This principle requires that we anticipate, prevent or mitigate significant adverse environmental (including human health) and economic impacts of policy, programs, and decisions.

5. CONSERVATION

This principle requires that we maintain essential ecological processes, biological diversity and life-support systems of our environment; harvest renewable resources on a sustained yield basis; and make wise and efficient use of our renewable and non-renewable resources.

6. RECYCLING

This principle requires that we endeavour to reduce, reuse, and recover the products of our society.

7. ENHANCEMENT

This principle requires that we enhance the long-term productive capability, quality and capacity of our natural ecosystems.

8. REHABILITATION AND RECLAMATION

This principle requires that we endeavour to restore damaged or degraded environments to beneficial uses.

Rehabilitation and reclamation require ameliorating damage caused in the past. Future policies, programs and developments should take into consideration the need for rehabilitation and reclamation.

9. SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION

This principle requires that we research, develop, test and implement technologies essential to further environmental quality including human health and economic growth.

10. GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY

This principle requires that we think globally when we act locally.

Global responsibility requires that we recognize there are no boundaries to our environment, and that there is ecological interdependence among provinces and nations. There is a need to work cooperatively within Canada, and internationally, to accelerate the merger of environment and economics in decision making and to develop comprehensive and equitable solutions to problems.

FUNDAMENTAL GUIDELINES

In addition to these principles, there are a number of fundamental guidelines. These guidelines have equal status to the principles, supporting them and indicating how the vision for Manitoba will be achieved.

1. EFFICIENT USE OF RESOURCES

We shall encourage and support development and application of systems for proper resource pricing, demand management, and resource allocation together with incentives and disincentives to encourage efficient use of resources and full environmental costing of decisions and developments.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

We shall establish appropriate forums which encourage and provide opportunity for consultation and meaningful participation in decision-making processes by all Manitobans. We shall endeavour to ensure due process, prior notification and appropriate and timely redress for those affected by policies, programs, decisions and developments.

3. UNDERSTANDING AND RESPECT

We shall be aware that we share a common physical, social and economic environment in Manitoba. Understanding and respect for differing social and economic views, values, traditions and aspirations is necessary for equitable management of these common resources. Consideration must be given to the aspirations, needs, and views of various regions and groups in Manitoba.

4. ACCESS TO ADEQUATE INFORMATION

We shall encourage and support the improvement and refinement of our environmental and economic information base and promotion of the opportunity for equal and timely access to information by all Manitobans.

5. INTEGRATED DECISION-MAKING AND PLANNING

We shall encourage and support decision-making and planning processes that are open, cross-sectoral, incorporate time horizons relevant to long-term implications and are efficient and timely.

6. SUBSTITUTION

We shall encourage and promote the development and use of substitutes for scarce resources where they are both environmentally sound and economically viable.

We believe that our vision for Manitoba requires that our principles and guidelines be applied to all sectors. This will be achieved through preparation and implementation of policies and programs for all resource, economic, regional, environmental, business and institutional initiatives.

Fundamental questions must be asked about how we do business, and we must find solutions to the problems facing us. We must decide how to use and develop our land, water and energy resources, how we will live and conduct ourselves, where and what kind of economic development is appropriate, and how to capture new environmental business opportunities. We will need to determine whether new environmental policies and regulations are required, what incentives are needed to promote effective sustainable activities, and which existing unsustainable incentives must be eliminated.

We must manage our wastes and recycle. We must consider what changes are needed in our public institutions, and whether our children understand the importance and interrelationship of the environment, human health and economy and how our resources are to be managed, developed and protected.

These are the challenges which face us all. The following component strategies are considered key to bringing sustainable development into our homes and workplaces.

Each one of us must look to how we can change the way we do things. Your consideration of these component strategies is required and your participation in carrying out the required actions is necessary.

Where we live in the Province will give us certain unique viewpoints which we must share with others freely and openly. Rural, urban and northern residents must participate in all our efforts and each of us has to start at home.

"Perceived needs are socially and culturally determined, and sustainable development requires that promotion of values that encourage consumption ... are within the bounds of the ecological possible and to which all can reasonably aspire."

Our Common Future P.44

The household is the cornerstone of sustainable development. You are the consumer of goods, services and energy upon which a strategy for sustainability must be based. The household is the source of public opinion on which action must rest.

Environmental degradation has become personal. It is found in the household. You, as a concerned citizen and consumer, can become the conserver as a householder.

Reducing household energy consumption, recycling, rejecting environmentally damaging products, packages and services, changing lifestyles, and influencing policy makers in both the private and corporate sectors are actions we can all take.

The household is the central unit in the marketplace, determining the size and shape of demand, and dictating product change. We are the community, determining its nature by setting standards and examples for private and social behaviour. Most importantly, you are fundamental to the democratic process, choosing governments at all levels and sitting in judgement on policies and programs.

In Manitoba, the success or failure of sustainable development will be determined by us. Regulation will be ineffective without consensus. Taxation or other forms of economic incentives will work only when the public is supportive. Business will respond quickly to public opinion, changing products, processes and practices in response to market-place forces.

A change in our consumption, conservation and purchasing attitudes and behaviour is a must. We need to identify the opportunities and methods to carry out this change. A strategy for the household and neighbourhood can help us achieve this.

Goals:

To encourage and support development of community organizations to foster appropriate action at the household level.

To ensure a change in attitudes and behaviour in the purchase, use and disposal of consumer goods and services.

"We consider it necessary that a major communications initiative be undertaken to enhance the visibility of the environment-economy issue."

National Task Force P.16

"The importance of educating our children to the new economic and environmental realities cannot be overstated. We believe that our children should have a better understanding of the environment so they can treat it with respect when they become decision makers in their own right."

National Task Force P.16

Public awareness and understanding of sustainable development are essential.

Over the long term our hope for achieving sustainable development lies in the education of our young people. Our children need to understand how the economy and environment affect each other, because they will be managing the industries and farms of tomorrow.

Young people coming out of our school system must have a solid grasp of the fundamental principles of sustainable development.

Goals:

To disseminate knowledge of environment-economy linkages throughout the public and private sectors.

To promote public awareness of benefits of environmentally sound and sustainable economic development.

To integrate the concept of sustainable development into elementary, high school, and post-secondary studies.

To strengthen natural resource management educational and training programs, particularly those that provide a multidisciplinary understanding.

To ensure Manitobans have the skills to work in the new emerging sectors oriented toward sustainable development.

Demonstration projects, and workshops, are required to achieve increased understanding and acceptance of sustainable development principles and concepts.

> *"We urge the use of demonstration projects ... These can be used to test new concepts or illustrate new technologies, but most importantly, to prove that integrated environmental and economic planning can work effectively."*
>
> National Task Force P.4

Goals:

To promote high profile demonstration projects which illustrate the application of sustainable development principles.

To encourage and promote initiatives, projects or development activities consistent with the principles of sustainable development.

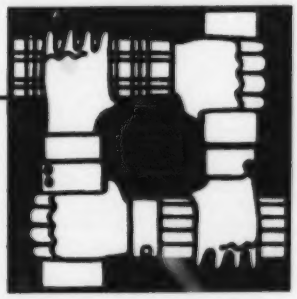
To provide recognition to those who have made noteworthy contributions to environmentally sound and sustainable economic development efforts.

To encourage and promote restoration of damaged environments resulting from economic activity, policies and regulations.

To heighten awareness of benefits of environmentally sound and sustainable economic development activities.

Sustainable Development as expressed in "Our Common Future" will change the very character of our society. Fundamental change in the way business is done, what is taught to our children, how we as individuals live and conduct our lives and how government and its institutions will assist, support, reinforce, guide and carry out sustainable development is required. Today, governments are not only legislators but economic motivators, consumers, policing agents, stewards and partners in the environment and economy. Government has traditionally attempted to resolve and address environmental, economic and social issues in isolation or relative isolation. They have failed to recognize the importance of intersectoral linkages. This has resulted in departments and agencies which tend to pursue sectoral objectives while treating the impacts of their decisions on other sectors as side effects. They also tend to look at the short-term benefits of decisions and neglect long-term implications, and costs. Closed departmental and agency decision-making processes and often inflexible administrative systems must be eliminated. What government does and how it carries out its responsibilities to Manitobans must now be articulated into a strategy for change in the public sector.

> *"The real world of interlocked economic and ecological systems will not change; the policies and institutions concerned must."*
>
> Our Common Future P.30



Goals:

To ensure sustainable development is embodied in the management systems, structures and operations of the Public Sector including: Cabinet, Cabinet Committees, Departments, Agencies, Boards, Commissions and Crown Corporations.

To promote, enhance and support implementation of sustainable development in municipal and urban agreements and programs on environmental protection and environmentally sustainable economic development.

Goals:

To ensure cooperation in sustainable development between provincial governments and the government of Canada and promote interprovincial and federal-provincial agreements and programs on environmental protection and environmentally sustainable economic development.

To pursue agreements on environmental protection and environmentally sustainable development between the Province and bordering U.S. state governments.

To ensure cooperation in sustainable development between government and the private sector.

> *"... sustainable development will ... assure that growing economies remain firmly attached to their ecological roots and that these roots are protected and nurtured so that they support growth over the long term. Environmental protection is thus inherent in the concept ..."*
>
> Our Common Future P. 40

A healthy environment is essential for our long-term development and for the desired quality of life to which development must contribute. Environment provides basic necessities of life: air, water, food, fuel and shelter. It provides the materials we harvest and mine: trees, wildlife, fish, and minerals. It is a source of energy: hydro, fossil fuels, solar heat and wind power. Components of the environment are also used to provide services such as parks for recreation or water and air for transportation.

Many well-intentioned uses of environmental resources, designed to improve our living condition and promote development, can have negative environmental consequences that may prove disastrous. All of us are aware of such cases. In Manitoba we face major issues involving the quality of our soil, our air and our water. These include loss of soil productivity through erosion and other degradation processes, increased toxic chemicals in the environment, and problems of surface and groundwater supply, distribution and quality. Environmental policies, in many cases, have been a form of management by crisis.

A strategy is necessary to ensure that we anticipate and prevent environmental damage. We will need to establish and maintain effective standards and regulations and ensure enforcement. Monitoring mechanisms will need to be developed to ensure environmental protection.

Goals:

To ensure environmentally sound economic activity by encouraging private and public sector organizations to fully consider environmental consequences and opportunities in the formulation, planning, development, implementation and evaluation of their activities.

To promote establishment of efficient and effective mechanisms that ensure economic decisions take environmental consequences into account.

Goals:

To encourage development of information systems and analytical techniques that facilitate sound environmental management.

To regularly monitor and report on the state of the environment and economy.

To encourage the development of a national action plan for protecting the atmosphere: minimizing carbon dioxide emission, depletion of the ozone layer and climatic change.

To ensure environmental legislation, regulations and enforcement efforts complement the new emphasis on environment-economy integration.

To establish and maintain environmental quality standards consistent with sustainable development.

The development and conservation of our natural resources; the soil, water, forest, wildlife, fisheries, minerals, and recreational land are vital to our economic future. The issues of land and water, such as soil and water conservation, non-point source pollution and industrial development, are becoming more complex and new approaches are needed to integrate and coordinate development and protect our natural resources. What we do on land affects our water. How we utilize and develop our water resources can affect not only water quality and quantity, but land use and associated development. A strategy is needed to accomplish the integration of land and water management in a multi-sectoral manner to effectively address the complex issues which cannot be adequately resolved by sectors working separately. Public and local government involvement has shown and proven that grass-roots participation in the management of our resources can be successful.

> *"... we have the knowledge, we need to conserve our land and water resources ... It requires a holistic approach focused on ecosystems ... with coordinated land use and careful planning ..."*
>
> Our Common Future P. 144

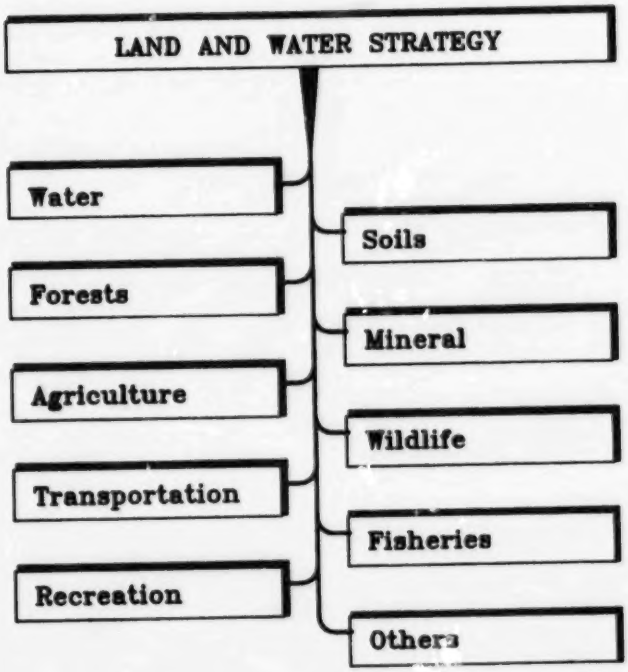
Goals:

To sustain resources, enhance productivity and improve environmental quality including human health.

To improve and diversify income and job opportunities.

To manage resource and related activities so as to preserve development options for future generations.

To protect natural systems, maintain the genetic diversity of species, and preserve the resilience and productivity of the ecological system.



Most of our energy needs are met through non-renewable fuels such as petroleum products, natural gas and coal, virtually all of which are imported. Manitoba's crude oil production is all exported. Hydro-electric power that is produced within Manitoba accounts for almost all of the remaining domestic consumption.

Energy is one of the cornerstones of sustainable development. Energy conservation and efficiency, demand management renewable energy sources, security of supply and costs of environmental damages are just a few of the concerns that need to be addressed in an energy strategy.

> *"The ultimate limits to global development are perhaps determined by the availability of energy resources and by the biosphere's capacity to absorb the by-products of energy use."*
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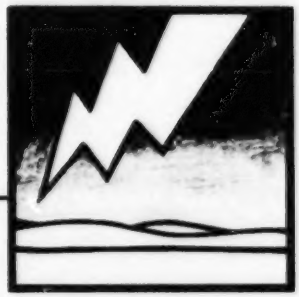
> Our Common Future P.58



Goals:

To ensure environmental concerns including human health are accounted for in energy development and use.

To facilitate the recovery of otherwise wasted energy.

To provide an affordable, stable, long-term energy supply.

To ensure efficient use and conservation of renewable energy resources.

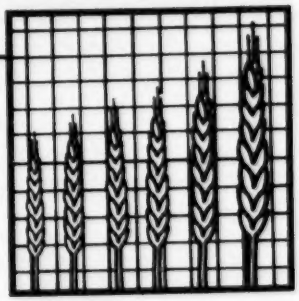
To reduce our reliance on scarce energy sources through encouragement of conservation, efficiency, substitution and development of new technologies.

To ensure development of energy resources and related industries that enhance economic opportunities and diversification.

> *"We see ... the possibility for a new era of economic growth, one that must be based on policies that sustain and expand the environmental resource base."*
>
> Our Common Future P. 1

Economic development is essential for sustainable development, for without it we cannot maintain the capacity to solve environmental problems. Sustainable development will create numerous opportunities.

At the same time, given the trend toward an increasingly competitive global economy, some existing industries could be threatened or experience decline if they fail to adapt to sustainable development principles and policies. We must manage the problems associated with declining or threatened sectors. At the same time, strategies are needed to effectively pursue and develop the emerging opportunities.



Goals:

To provide long-term prosperity with lasting and secure livelihoods that minimize resource depletion, environmental degradation, cultural disruption and protect human health.

To enhance the competitiveness of Manitoba industry.

To promote growth and diversified economic opportunities. To build strong and productive links between rural, northern and urban communities, and to encourage improved balanced growth in all regions.

To promote expansion and growth of economic sectors that are compatible with sustainable development.

To manage the transition of industries that are threatened by sustainable development initiatives so that adverse consequences on the Manitoba economy are minimized.

To promote development of human resources that will meet the needs of emerging sectors that are oriented to sustainable development.

The high standard of living which we enjoy today in Manitoba has evolved through a level of consumption which rapidly depletes our stock of virgin materials and generates large quantities of waste. Our present lifestyle is not sustainable. Growing numbers of Manitobans are concerned about the type and volume of materials they are throwing into the garbage collection system. These wastes, with their potential for environmental damage, stay with us long after we "dispose" of them. We may remove them from our houses and businesses but we do not remove them from "our living room". Furthermore, most materials contained in the wastes have to be replaced from the limited and shrinking stocks available to our own and future generations. The extraction of these new or virgin materials also creates environmental risks. The land we use for landfills today, we leave behind tomorrow as severely contaminated environments. If current trends persist, between 1990 and the year 2000, we will require at least 445 hectares (1,000 acres) for waste disposal.

Recycling helps us to reach a sustainable lifestyle. The need to drastically reduce, reuse, and recover the volume of domestic and industrial waste streams is the main link between recycling and waste management strategy and sustainable development.

Recycling is an activity which can also include the adaptive reuse and preservation of existing heritage structures or entire neighbourhoods. It reduces the amount of material which must be disposed of and contributes to the conservation of existing resources as less new material is required for construction. In addition, the refurbishment of existing structures increases local employment opportunities (renovation projects typically are 1.5 times more labour intensive than new construction).

> *"Promoting the reclamation, reuse, or recycling of materials can reduce the problem of solid waste, stimulate employment, and result in savings of raw materials."*
>
> Our Common Future P.255

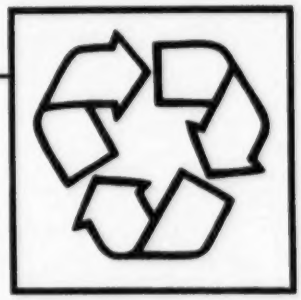
Goals:

To promote recycling, maximize the reuse of goods and materials and enhance opportunities for recycling throughout the Province.

To reduce the amount of resources used and reduce waste generation in the manufacturing of products.

To enhance awareness and understanding of the need for waste reduction, the potential for recycling and the value of discards and residuals that yield secondary materials.

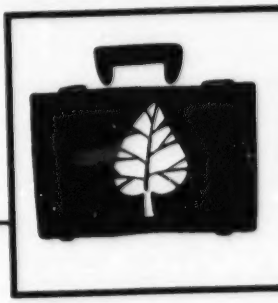
To promote the development of recycling and waste management industries.



Emerging environmental businesses present opportunities for economic growth in Manitoba. It is estimated there are currently over 200 environment related businesses operating in Manitoba, producing revenues of over $200 million annually. Economic opportunities arising from such areas as conservation, recycling, pollution control, renewable energy development, waste management, reclamation, and environmental management represent critical links between the environmental business strategy and sustainable development in Manitoba.

"Pollution control has become a thriving branch of industry in its own right ... Looking to the future, a growing market for pollution control systems, equipment, and services is expected in practically all industrialized countries."

Our Common Future P.213



Goals:

To promote environment-related industries as an area of business development opportunity.

To provide information on the characteristics of environment-related industries including barriers to their development.

To identify potential market opportunities for environment-related industries.

To provide incentives and legislation to enhance the development of environment-related industries.

Goals:

To provide leadership and support for research and development efforts towards technological advances in environment-related industries.

To promote awareness of technologies for preventing or minimizing environmental degradation.

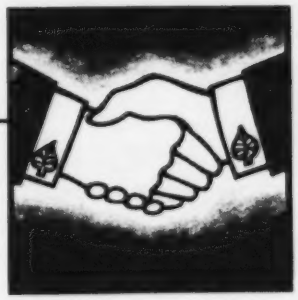
To promote leadership in technological developments that will facilitate emergence of sustainable development oriented sectors.

> *"Product redesign and technological innovations leading to safer products, more efficient processes, and recycling of raw materials can ... be promoted by a more effective, integrated use of economic incentives and disincentives, such as investment tax breaks, low interest loans, depreciation allowances, pollution or waste charges, and non-compliance fees."*
>
> Our Common Future P.222

At the core of sustainable development is the need to integrate environmental factors into the processes of development. In practical terms, integration requires that we recognize and, where appropriate, utilize market-based and financial mechanisms.

Adjustments to or the introduction of property rights, tenure allocation systems, resource rents and user fees, resource subsidies, product surcharges and deposits, emission charges, tax regimes, investment instruments and other fiscal policies can be used to ensure appropriate pricing, costing and use of natural and environmental resources. These mechanisms can be used with or in place of regulations. They will encourage the development and implementation of innovative sustainable approaches to development. The application of these mechanisms is the main linkage between the incentives strategy and sustainable development.

> *"Economic development must take full account in its measurements of growth of the improvement or deterioration in the stock of natural resources."*
>
> Our Common Future P. 52



Goals:

To provide for and encourage the application and use of appropriate incentives and disincentives which promote the effective and efficient use, management and protection of natural and environmental resources.

To encourage through appropriate financial incentives, private sector innovation to maintain both environmental quality and economic growth.

Goals:

To eliminate market impediments that promote economically inefficient and environmentally unsound practices.

To develop fiscal policies which account for environmental impacts and increase the value of our natural and environmental resources.

To ensure the value of natural and environmental resource capital is included as an asset in the accounting systems of government.

To ensure both public and private initiatives identify and account for full project, program and policy costs including resource, economic and environmental impacts.

> *"... greater prosperity will depend on integrated rural development that increases work opportunities both inside and outside agriculture."*
>
> Our Common Future P. 13

Rural Manitoba has a resource based economy with many urban centres of varying size and economic diversity. The past decade witnessed difficult times for much of rural Manitoba. Financial hardship has become an issue on many farms and in many rural communities which depend upon the agricultural economy. One of the most dramatic changes in family farming has been the need to support the farm with off-farm employment. This trend has placed considerable pressure on already limited rural jobs. Increases in the percentage of rural senior citizens will have significant implications for housing, health care, and delivery of social services. Shortages of medical doctors is an issue of substantial concern to rural people.

The migration of young adults presents particular challenges to the continued viability of rural life.

There is a need to further diversify and strengthen the rural economic base. Decentralization of provincial agencies and services can help to stabilize rural communities. Conservation programs can be a stimulus for rural economic development. There must be support for development of new and sustainable businesses, value added agricultural and industrial enterprises, appropriate infrastructure and encouragement and support for expanded rural educational and training opportunities. Improved and accessible social services including health care must be provided. These issues need to be addressed in a strategy for rural Manitoba.

Goals:

To attain sustainable economic development and diversification in rural Manitoba.

To stabilize the existing employment base and stimulate job creation in rural Manitoba.

To maintain and enhance our rural population base and curtail the loss of rural young people.

Goals:

To improve the availability of services in rural Manitoba and respond to the special economic and social needs of target groups.

To ensure the policies for rural Manitoba, the capital region and northern Manitoba are mutually supportive and result in improved and balanced provincial growth.

To enhance the quality of rural life.

To upgrade basic infrastructure and social and health services to enhance development opportunities in rural Manitoba.

To establish planning and management mechanisms that ensure resources are used and developed in an environmentally sound and economically sustainable manner.

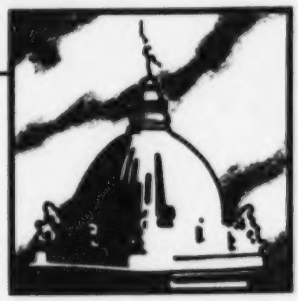
To preserve special areas and protect critical natural resources.

To ensure the integration of sustainable development principles and approaches in local decision-making.

With more than half of the Province's population residing in or near the capital city of Winnipeg, a major portion of the sustainable development initiatives must be aimed at the problems and opportunities of this area. A variety of challenges must be met: protecting remaining natural ecosystems; providing adequate infrastructure and services; further diversifying the regional economy; rationalizing physical growth; improving social conditions; and protecting the public from nuisances and hazards, amongst others. A comprehensive strategy is needed to effectively address these complex issues, provide a policy framework for local government, complement rural and northern Manitoba strategies, and enable the public to participate in the management of our capital region.

"Given the importance of cities, special efforts and safeguards are needed to ensure that the resources they demand are produced sustainably and that urban dwellers participate in decisions affecting their lives."

Our Common Future P.243



Goals:

To establish planning and management mechanisms that ensure resources are developed and used in an environmentally sound and economically sustainable manner.

To protect natural habitats and landscapes in the capital region, and protect critical natural resources required to sustain the region.

To attain sustainable economic development and diversification of the capital region.

To ensure the policies for the capital region, rural and northern Manitoba are mutually supportive and result in improved and balanced provincial growth.

To promote diverse programs and initiatives that protect and improve the physical condition, infrastructure and natural environment of the capital region.

Goals:

To respond to the special economic and social needs of target groups in the capital region.

To ensure the integration of sustainable development principles and approaches in local decision-making.

Northern Manitoba's economy is largely based on tourism, extraction and use of minerals, forests, water, wildlife and fish resources. The role of agriculture and secondary manufacturing is minor.

The region has a substantially greater proportion of aboriginal residents than other parts of the province. Domestic use of natural resources continues to be important to the aboriginal population.

Its population is distributed between scattered single industry resource communities with their attendant cyclical instability. Many communities face serious social problems, high levels of unemployment and inadequate infrastructure.

There is a need to ensure communities have the capability to benefit from resource development and use. They must be enabled to adapt to changing resource markets, and achieve economic diversification and self sufficiency. We must recognize the human and environmental outcomes of development, and the continuing need to manage the social and environmental impacts and costs. There is need for appropriate services, education and training, amenities, recreational facilities and infrastructure development. All of these concerns must be addressed in a northern development strategy.

Goals:

To develop mechanisms which integrate northerners in decision-making and planning processes and management of their regional development.

To promote respect for aboriginal rights, interests and culture.

To promote economic diversification and provide long-term employment opportunities and increased native participation in the labour force.

To promote development of community oriented renewable resource based economies.

To enable the participation of northerners in environmental impact assessment of major projects and minimize the adverse impacts of resource developments.

Goals:

To ensure or encourage upgrading of basic infrastructure, social and health services in communities in order to enhance development prospects and quality of life.

To establish planning and management mechanisms which ensure that resources are developed and used in an environmentally sound and economically sustained manner.

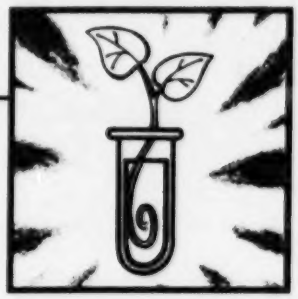
To ensure the policies for northern Manitoba, the capital region and rural Manitoba are mutually supportive and result in improved and balanced provincial growth.

To preserve special areas and protect critical natural resources.

In the long-term, new technologies, resource use practices, and management approaches need to be developed to achieve environmentally sound and sustainable economic development of renewable and non-renewable resources. Sustainable development research designed to address socio-economic, physical science issues, and multi-disciplinary research are crucial. Research efforts need to be coordinated and focused. Information systems that make research findings accessible must be developed. To the extent that we do these, we will be linking research and development with sustainable development.

"Government, industry, academic and other non-government organizations should develop new tools and improve existing tools which achieve more efficient and effective environment-economy integration."
National Task Force P.5

"More research is needed on the concept of sustainable economic development and the linkages between economic development and the environment so that we can better understand those linkages and apply data and information to make better decisions."
National Task Force P.5



Goals:

To develop the necessary tools and identify the linkages for environment economy integration.

To develop quality oriented technologies which increase productivity and efficiency of resources and industrial processes.

To promote scientific research on ecological process needed for effective policies.

To promote awareness of technologies for preventing or minimizing environmental, including human health and economic problems, and encouraging and facilitating their development, diffusion, and application.

YOU ARE THE PROCESS

PHASE 1

Manitoba Round Table on Environment and Economy, and the Manitoba Government initiate discussions of a sustainable development strategy.

PHASE 2

Manitoba Round Table and Manitoba Government prepare a "Core Document."

PHASE 3

PUBLIC DIALOGUE

PHASE 4

Adoption of core document by Manitoba Round Table and Manitoba Government.

PHASE 5

Preparation, public dialogue and integration of component strategies

For more information contact:
Sustainable Development Coordination Unit
305-155 Carlton Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 3H8

"Based on the initiation of a broad dialogue between various interests, the process of ... strategy development is itself a mechanism for building a consensus to support integrated management of our resources."
National Task Force P.12

The Manitoba Round Table and the Manitoba Government invite you to participate in the development of a sustainable development strategy for Manitoba.

We are bringing these concepts to you for consultation and review. We know that Manitobans care about the future of our environment and economy, and we believe that the joining of environmental and economic goals will create exciting opportunities as we venture into the 21st century.

Premier Filmon,
Chairman of Manitoba Roundtable on Environment & Economy

" We look forward to hearing your views and comments on this strategy."